(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



I COLIN BUILDER IN BURNE HEIN BERG BERG BURN BERG BURN BERGE KUN BURN BURN BURN BURN BURN BERGER BURN BURN BURN

(43) International Publication Date 8 January 2004 (08.01.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2004/003445 A1

(51) International Patent Classification7:

F25D 23/06

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/EP2003/006864

(22) International Filing Date: 27 June 2003 (27.06.2003)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 02014062.0

1 July 2002 (01.07.2002) EP

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): WHIRLPOOL CORPORATION [US/US]; 2000 M 63, Benton Harbor, MI 49022 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): KIRBY, David

[US/US]; 1775 Meadow Grove, St. Joseph, MI 49085 (US). MARTINELLA, Luigi [IT/IT]; Via Risorgimento 127, I-28823 Ghiffa (IT). GIUDICI, Giorgio [IT/IT]; Via Fiume 6, I-21015 Lonate Pozzolo (IT).

(74) Agent: GUERCI, Alessandro; Whirlpool Europe S.r.l., V. le G. Borghi 27, I-21025 Comerio (IT).

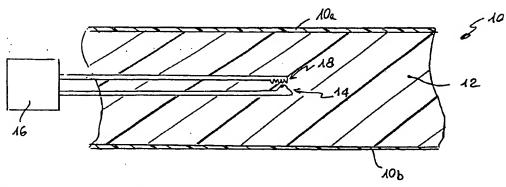
(81) Designated States (national): BR, CA, CN, CZ, IN, JP, KR, MX, NZ, PL, RU, US, ZA.

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: A VACUUM INSULATED REFRIGERATOR CABINET AND METHOD FOR ASSESSING THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY THEREOF



(57) Abstract: A vacuum insulated refrigerator cabinet comprises an evacuation system for evacuating an insulation space (10, 12) of the cabinet when pressure inside such space is higher than a predetermined value. The cabinet presents sensor means comprising a temperature sensor (14) and a heater (18) both located within the insulation space (10, 12) and a control system (16) for activating the heater (18) according to a predetermined heating cycle and for receiving a signal from the temperature sensor (14), such control system being able to provide the evacuation system with a signal related to the insulation level within the insulation space.

2004/003445 A1